



University of Colorado
Boulder

Tuition & Aid Advisory Board (TAAB) Meeting
Tuesday, November 15, 2011
1B29 PBA Conference Room, Regent Hall

1. Introductions

2. Final Fall 2011 Tuition and Fees

3. State/Higher Education Budget Update

4. Long-Term Tuition Planning

5. Future Agenda Items

Tuition and Aid Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes, 11/15/2011

In Attendance:

Allen Buckner (conference), Frances Draper, David Frederick, Carrie Gleeksman, Joey Hubbard, William Kaempfer, Lou McClelland, Steve McNally, Gwen Pomper, Carly Robinson, Jerry Rudy, Erika Smith

Budget update was presented. September 2011 revenue forecast includes no further budget cuts for FY 12. There are some conversions from course to program fees. The recreation center fee did go before the Board of Regents and debt has just been issued on the new recreation center. The design phase will be this summer. The building is expected to open in Fall 2013.

Tuition did increase for 2010-11 with an increase in the full-time rate for Colorado resident undergraduates of 9.3% or \$654 per academic year. Resident graduate tuition increased by 5%.

Tuition rates for non-resident undergraduates have been covered by the non-resident undergraduate tuition guarantee program since 2005-06. Rates for students entering summer 2011 through spring 2012 are 3% higher than those for students entering the prior year. Tuition rates for non-resident graduate students increased 5% from 2010-11.

Insufficient growth is forecasted for Colorado for FY 2013 to cover caseload demands. Overall the state budget increased \$227 million. In order to meet caseload growth, the governor's FY 2013 budget proposal lists significant cuts in many areas. These reductions include a \$60.3 million total cut from higher education, with an operational funding reduction of \$21.9 million. The University of Colorado is expected to see an operational funding reduction of \$11.9 million. We are also expecting a reduction to need based grants and work study, which has not yet been allocated to specific institutions by the state. The governor's proposal for the higher ed budget includes a reduction to the Colorado Opportunity Fund of \$1.1 million, a work study reduction of \$5.5 million, and a reduction to need-based grants of \$24.6 million.

43% of our CU budget comes from tuition and fees, as does 80% of our general fund dollars. Unless an increase is approved by the Board of Regents, tuition will stay as it is. We will be engaging the Regents in a series of meetings which include discussions to formulate a long-term tuition strategy. One strategy we will be examining is a simplified tuition rate structure:

- Full and part-time rates: Set a full-time rate for students enrolled for 9 or more credit hours, and a part-time rate for all others, rather than specifying a separate rate for each credit load.
- Linearity: Setting the full-time rate to charge for 15 credit hours, the load required for graduation in four years, maybe by fall 2014. The current FY11-12 full-time rate charges for 11.25 credit hours. This change would make Boulder more consistent with the Denver and Colorado Springs campuses.
- Also we will be examining a guaranteed tuition proposal for undergraduate resident students, similar to what we have in place now for non-resident undergraduate students.

Community colleges have increased their tuition also; their percent of change is similar to ours, but the dollar amount of their changes is less than ours.

Work study is a separate line item in the budget. We have a Joint Budget Committee staffer who has advocated for the work study program. As a campus we would like to maintain the ability to allocate funds between grants and work study. The goal is to allocate to lower incomes first, where there is a huge need. Unfortunately we have to turn down a lot of students for work study. Work study is challenging to administer because of many variables. Need-based grants are at 4.4 million right now. CU has seen a 36% reduction in general fund state support for financial aid since FY 2009. Community Colleges have seen an increase in support. We expect to see a reduction of \$8-\$12 million in State financial aid for the Boulder campus.

There is also a decrease at the federal level for financial aid, with a reduction to Pell Grants; and this could lead to a significant reduction in financial aid.

It was hoped by the group that a long-term tuition strategy as part of a more diversified general fund revenue portfolio, along with the current capital campaign, and continued operating efficiencies will help to offset the state and federal cuts. Discussion came back to the rate of tuition per semester. Some members of the group expressed the hope that the students don't take too many hours per semester and get overwhelmed if we go to a set tuition rate for 15 semester hours and over. However, we are hoping that the students sign up for no less than 15 hours per semester, in order to graduate in four years. We are aware that a lot of federal regulations encourage students to graduate sooner by taking more hours. The 2030 flagship proposal suggested a 12-month university. We discussed how this structure might relate to summer tuition. 5-6 % of current revenue comes from summer tuition and has the same per credit hour rate as the academic year.